



Transformation in Christ

Imagine if you could obtain the Holy Eucharist from a vending machine. Or order a consecrated host from Amazon. Or buy a couple dozen in bulk at Costco. If you think these are absurd ideas, sacrilegious, and fully un-Catholic, consider yourself in the minority. These days, the vast majority of Catholics are not ready to embrace the real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist (Pew Survey, 2019).

Where is Jesus, where has He gone? If we cannot believe in Our Lord present with us during the Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, how will we see Jesus (as Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta puts it) “in the distressing disguise of the poor.” In many ways, our Diocesan Eucharistic Revival initiative asks us to consider the **Big Deal** of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. The objective is not to get everyone to return to Mass each week (although that is a nice idea), it’s not to return the Church to some pedestal or inspire us to read the Bible each day (also a nice idea). Rather, the primary objective of our Eucharistic Revival - the **Big Deal** - is to renew our understanding of and belief in Jesus with us, in that sacred Host, consecrated by the priest during Holy Mass.

We are offered this precious gift every week, but do we really understand and revere the miracle we experience? Our Eucharistic Revival in September is a golden opportunity to spend just part of our day or evening listening to speakers who will inspire us to consider the Holy Eucharist as everything Christ Jesus intended it to be. Perhaps your participation in the Eucharistic Revival will affirm feelings about the Holy Eucharist which have faded like old memories. Perhaps you will be inspired by joining more than a thousand fellow worshipers in pilgrimage to the Cathedral, celebrating God’s greatest gift to us, the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of His Son, Jesus Christ.

After He experienced Christ’s transfiguration, death and resurrection, the Apostle Peter was ultimately driven to establish a community of believers that survives today. It is our obligation to continue to spread the Good News of the Gospel and belief in the Holy Eucharist which is so crucial to our faith tradition. Many of us, myself included, need a revival to reignite the flame of our faith. Now is the time to act!! Don’t miss out on the Big Deal!

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